



**STATE OF MONTANA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION**  
**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES DIVISION**



Brian Schweitzer  
Governor

## Chief Information Officer

# Advisory

March 5, 2010

**To:** Distribution

**Subject:** Approval of Information Security Policy Instruments

---

The **Statewide Policy: Information Security Programs** has been approved by the State Chief Information Officer with an effective date of **July 1, 2012**, and is available for review by state and local government organizations, the Montana university system, the private sector, and interested parties.

The policy and its associated Comment Report are available at the [Enterprise Information Systems Publications](http://enterpriseinformation.mt.gov/publications) within the "[Information Security](http://enterpriseinformation.mt.gov/publications)" sub-page at <http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/policies/Security/securitydomain.mcpx>.

Implementation items of note:

1. This policy establishes the use of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) *Risk Management Framework* as the method and standard of performance for the agencies' current information security programs required by [Section 2-15-114, MCA](#).
2. The state now has a common standard with which to align current security programs; a standard that meets federal requirements tied to federal programs administered by the state, and federally-funded state programs. Alignment with the federal requirements reduces the risk of losing federal funding. Because federal security requirements continue to increase, this is a very real risk.
3. Security-related expenditure requests will now be aligned to a common information risk management framework. This supports effectiveness and efficiency within the Executive Program Planning (EPP) cycle. (I.e., HB10, etc.)

**APPROVAL OF INFORMATION SECURITY POLICY  
INSTRUMENTS  
PAGE 2 OF 2**

4. Agencies are encouraged to align the current and future security expenditures (under [§2-15-114, MCA](#), et al) within the context of the framework. (I.e., security expenditures are aligned with NIST-based security “controls.”)
5. The use of a common framework makes effective support feasible and achievable at the enterprise level. (I.e., common planning, training, funding, consulting, etc.)

The Department of Administration/Information Technology Services Division is now coordinating statewide implementation activities in support of this policy. Agency Information Security Managers (required under [§2-15-114, MCA](#)) are encouraged to participate in these activities, by contacting:

**Kevin R Winegardner, BS, CISSP**  
Chief  
Enterprise Information System Security Bureau  
State of Montana  
406-444-2571  
[kwinegardner@mt.gov](mailto:kwinegardner@mt.gov)

This policy is promulgated under the provisions of the Montana Information Technology Act ([2-17-234\(1\) MCA](#)) that states the Department (of Administration) “establish and maintain the minimum security standards and policies to implement [2-15-114](#)...”

Please address any questions or concerns to:

Policy Manager  
PO Box 200113  
Helena, MT 59620-0113  
**Tel:** (406) 444-2700  
**Fax:** (406) 444-2701  
**ITSD Service Desk** (at <http://servicedesk.mt.gov/ess.do>)

**Advisory Disposition:** Retain until rescinded by policy or State CIO.

CIO\_ADVRY\_20100305a